

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-31. (cancelled)

32.(currently amended): Signal processing circuitry, for use in a mobile station capable of receiving a downlink signal from each of a plurality of base stations and transmitting an uplink signal to the plurality of base stations through a wireless channel, said signal processing circuitry comprising:

a processor which produces a measure of a signal quality of the downlink signals received from the plurality of base stations in a soft handoff mode with said mobile station, selects a base station from which a downlink signal shows a preferred signal quality, and controls transmission of the uplink signal to indicate the selected base station, among the plurality of base stations, for subsequent communication with the mobile station,

wherein while in said soft handoff mode, said processor periodically re-selecting a base station from which the downlink signal shows the best signal quality and transmitting the uplink signal indicating the selected base station, among the plurality of base stations in said soft hand-off mode.

33.(original): The signal processing circuitry as claimed in claim 32, wherein the signal quality of the downlink signals from the plurality of base stations is represented by signal strengths of the received downlink signals.

Claims 34-69.(cancelled)

70.(new): The signal processing circuitry of claim 32,  
wherein said selected base station transmits a subsequent downlink signal to the  
mobile station while said plurality of base stations continue in said soft hand-off mode with the  
mobile station, and a downlink power of said plurality of base stations is controlled according to  
whether a particular base station is a selected base station.

71.(new): The signal processing circuitry of claim 32,  
wherein said mobile station receiving the next downlink signal from at least the  
selected base station while maintaining the soft handoff mode with the base stations in said soft  
hand-off mode which are not selected base stations.

72.(new): The signal processing circuitry of claim 32,  
wherein said mobile station receiving a next downlink signal from one or more  
selected base stations in the soft hand-off mode, the signal processing circuitry providing an  
identification for each base station in the soft hand-off mode while maintaining the soft handoff  
mode with the base stations.

73.(new): Signal processing circuitry, for use in a mobile station in which said mobile  
station is capable of receiving a downlink signal from each of a set of base stations in a soft  
hand-off mode with the mobile station and transmitting an uplink signal to the set of base  
stations through a wireless channel, said signal processing circuitry comprising:

a selection unit producing a measure of signal quality of the downlink signals from the set of base stations in said soft hand-off mode with the mobile station and selecting a base station from which the downlink signal shows a preferred signal quality;

a transmitter transmitting the uplink signal including an identification of the selected base station among the set of base stations in a soft hand-off mode.

wherein said selection unit, while said mobile station is in said soft handoff mode, periodically re-selecting a base station from which the downlink signal shows the preferred signal quality and transmitting the uplink signal indicating the selected base station, among the plurality of base stations in said soft hand-off mode.

74.(new): The signal processing circuitry of claim 73, wherein said mobile station receives a subsequent downlink signal from the selected base station while the non-selected base stations continue in said soft hand-off mode.